



# NEWS from the BRIDGE

Life at

## Bridge Street United Church (Belleville, ON)

An initiative brought to you by the Transition Team.  
Submitted articles are subject to editing for length and readability.

***Friday, September 18, 2020***



On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the Strategic Planning Committee supplied to you via email and 'snail mail' a comprehensive update about our work. In that correspondence, we invited your feedback, particularly by responding to a series of questions.

This is a friendly reminder to please review those materials and to provide your feedback to us as soon as possible and before the end of this month (September).

With thanks.

*Gary Hannaford, Chair*



## ***An Update from your Finance Team***

Thank you for your continued financial support of our congregation's work and witness.

The Team is very encouraged that offerings are almost at last year's levels, notwithstanding Covid-related changes and challenges.

Financial statements to the end of August reflect figures which are consistent with the budgeted deficit for the year of \$80,000.



## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH**

The Worship & Music Team is pleased to announce that our congregation will observe the sacrament of Holy Communion, alongside other churches (including and beyond the United Church) on the first Sunday in October.

As worship for us will happen virtually on YouTube, those wishing to participate will need to have a bit of bread (a cracker or a sweet pastry is also an option) and a measure of grape juice (or some other flavour, or perhaps the real thing?!).

Rev. David will lead the observance and worshippers will be invited to participate in a spirit of both concelebrant and participant. For persons living together, or are member of an established social bubble, the act of serving one another may add a meaning component to the ritual.

The Worship & Music Team encourages your participation and encourages you to make arrangements for the needed provisions (however you define and utilize them).



Wednesday morning bible study sessions have started back up again using Zoom video conferencing technology.

Zoom can be used on any computer or digital device (eg. smartphones) to connect in and participate, using webcam and speakers. Phone-in connections can also be used.

Sessions will begin at 8:30am Wednesdays and will follow a curriculum of materials emailed out to participants each week, ahead of the next session.

For further details about participating, please contact Frank Hiebert ([fhiebert@cogeco.ca](mailto:fhiebert@cogeco.ca)) or Audrey Cowan ([acowan6@cogeco.ca](mailto:acowan6@cogeco.ca)).



Our friends at St. Mark's United Church, 237 Cannifton Road North, Cannifton, are holding a Fish Fry.

*Take Out Only* - Sunday, September 27th, 2020 - 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

A 1-piece dinner is \$13, or the 2-piece meal is \$15.

Please pre-order and pre-pay.

Call the church office 613-968-4222 to arrange pick-up time and payment.

Please leave a message if no one is in the office.



We premier our weekly online worship on **YouTube** at **10 a.m. Sunday.**

The following schedule reflects when BSUC will offer online worship for the foreseeable future.

<b>SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup></b>	✓
<b>SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup></b>	✓
<b>OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup></b>	✓

Further details are provided in the latter pages of this publication.



Of the many activities that contribute to the life of the Church, surely prayer is a prominent one.

Praying for one and another has long been a practice that communities of faith engage in at times of celebration, sorrow, uncertainty, fear, and thanksgiving.

This week you are invited to pray for the following individuals and their circumstances. As seems right, please pray for their strength; pray for their soul to be comforted; and pray for a different and better future than is their current circumstance.

We lift before God:

- **Those** who are walking through the valley of the shadow of death.
- **Joe C.** as he mourns the death of his grandfather **Marshall**.
- **Those others** whose health is imperiled.
- **Folk** who are poor, hungry, homeless or provisionally housed, as they live with uncertainty and fear.
- For **teachers, educational workers, and students** as they begin a school year made distinctive by the challenges arising with COVID-19 mitigation efforts.
- **Those** whose challenges have yet to be conveyed to us and yet are so very real.

Rev. David welcomes news of others for whom we can pray. *Please reach out and advise.*



## **WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2020**

**AVAILABLE beginning THIS Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.**

Please copy (ctrl c) and paste (ctrl v), or otherwise place this link into your browser and press enter: <https://youtu.be/Nwf0YU9C2Eo>

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### **God of the Bible**

1. God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,  
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,  
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,  
freedom or prison, you are our home.  
  
*Refrain: (repeat 2 times)*  
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.
2. God in our struggles, God in our hunger,  
suffering with us, taking our part,  
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,  
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.
3. Those without status, those who are nothing,  
you have made royal, gifted with rights,  
chosen as partners, midwives of justice,  
birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

4. Not by your finger, not by your anger  
will our world order change in a day,  
but by your people, fearless and faithful,  
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.
5. Hope we must carry, shining and certain  
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,  
bonding us gladly one to the other,  
till our world changes facing the Cross.

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## OPENING PRAYER

*Good and gracious God, here and now.*

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE FAITHFUL FIND SALVATION  
AND THE SEEKERS BE INFORMED.**

*Here and now... may the doubting find courage and  
the anxious be calmed.*

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE LOST FIND DIRECTION  
AND THE FOUND BE ENLIGHTENED.**

*Here and now... may the weary find rest  
and the strong be engaged.*

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE OLDER FIND COMFORT  
AND THE YOUNGER BE INSPIRED.**

*Here and now... we ask all this, as those following the Way of  
Jesus, ever hopeful of finding abundant life.*

**HEAR AND NOW... TO GOD BE THE GLORY,  
AND CHRIST JESUS, OUR PRAISE. AMEN.**



## Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

- 1 Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come.  
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.  
Our slavery left behind us,  
new hopes within us grow.

We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

- 2 Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.  
We are not lost, though wandering,  
for by your light we come,  
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.
- 3 Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.  
We pray our sons and daughters  
may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.

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### **Concluding Prayer**

*In this time of COVID-19, we pray:*

*When we aren't sure, God,  
help us be calm;  
when information comes  
from all sides, correct and not,  
help us to discern;  
when fear makes it hard to breathe,  
and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,  
slow us down, God;  
help us to reach out with our hearts,  
when we can't touch with our hands;*

*help us to be socially connected,  
when we have to be socially distant;  
help us to love as perfectly as we can,  
knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."  
For the doctors, we pray,  
for the nurses, we pray,  
for the technicians and the janitors and the  
aides and the caregivers, we pray,  
for the researchers and theorists,  
the epidemiologists and investigators,*



*for those who are sick,  
and those who are grieving, we pray,  
for all who are affected,  
all around the world...  
we pray  
for safety,  
for health,  
for wholeness.  
May we feed the hungry,  
give drink to the thirsty,  
clothe the naked and house those without homes;  
may we walk with those who feel they are alone,  
and may we do all that we can to heal  
the sick—  
in spite of the epidemic,  
in spite of the fear.  
Help us, O God,  
that we might help each other.  
In the love of the Creator,  
in the name of the Healer,  
in the life of the Holy Spirit that is in all and with all,  
we pray.  
May it be so.  
Amen.*

The Very Reverend Dr. Richard Bott  
Moderator of The United Church of Canada



## **Bless Now, O God, the Journey**

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey  
that all your people make,  
the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert

and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters,  
the road where faith is found.

2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
who share this winding way,  
whose hope burns through the terrors,  
whose love sustains the day.  
We yearn for holy freedom  
while often we are bound.  
Together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.

3 Divine Eternal Lover,  
you meet us on the road.  
We wait for lands of promise  
where milk and honey flow.  
But waiting not for places,  
you meet us all around.  
Our covenant is written  
on roads, as faith is found.

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